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May 25, 1999

LB 881, 881A
LR 228

LB 881, and LB 881A. Mr. Clerk, LR 228.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 228, by Senator Crosby, found on page 2105 of the Journal.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I thank you very much for allowing me to speak this morning just very briefly about LR 228, which I introduced to remember those staff members who died during the past year. We as a fam....The Legislature turns into a family, I think even the new ones realize that, because, basically, we are a very small group of people. When you look at who...there's 49 of us, so that makes 98 staff members, give or take a few, plus the committee counsels and committee clerks, the Research Office, the Clerk's Office, the Fiscal Office and the Accounting Office.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: President, don't be forgetting the President.

SENATOR CROSBY: I hope I haven't missed any of those people. My point with this resolution is that it brings home to us, it certainly did to me as we kept going this fall, how much we depend on our staff. They take care of us during the session; no one will debate that, I'm sure. During the interim they're here, even if we are not. They laugh with us, they cry with us, they encourage us, they discourage us sometimes; sometimes they'll say, you know, Senator, it might not be such a great idea. So, I just feel strongly that this occasion of this many staff members dying during a relatively short period of time brings home to us how much we depend on these people. And so I...years ago, in the National Observer, there was a column that started out saying, send me no flowers. And the point was tell me now that you like me, tell me now that you appreciate me. So my point this morning is to thank those mem...those staff members who did die during the year, Anne Stovall, Jackie Schizas, Anne Buntain, Pat Higgins, and Dorothy David, each of whom was at work shortly before they died, each of whom were here. They were here. But, along with that, a thank you to all of our staff members who are still with us and who help us every day. Thank you very much. I'll appreciate your vote.